SBI3U Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Biodiversity Assignment**

At the end of this unit, we have an appreciation for the great diversity of living organisms on Earth, their interconnections, as well as their importance to us. As such, we better understand the importance of maintaining biodiversity, and are also aware that our actions can have a great impact on the living organisms around us.

For this assignment, you will be choosing a recent article on one of the following topics:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Effects of human intervention on biodiversity:** | **Impact of climate change on biodiversity:** |
| Some recent topics that might be of interest:  -lack of biodiversity of banana crops due to consumer demands  -"super-bugs" such as *C. difficile* and lice  -conservation efforts to increase populations of endangered species (e.g. breeding programs, reintroduction of species, etc.) | Some recent topics that might be of interest:  -destruction of habitat (melting ice) threatening species such as Arctic polar bears, Antarctic emperor penguins, sea turtles, etc.  -warming leading to increased range of certain species such as *Anopheles*, etc. |

You will prepare a 1-page written assignment that includes:

-a brief introduction that emphasizes the specific benefits of maintaining biodiversity

-a summary (1 paragraph) of the article which includes a clear description of how

human intervention or climate change has affected biodiversity

-2 connections to information not presented in the article (i.e. suggest 2 specific

actions that could be taken to reduce the negative impact; describe 2 ways in which the

positive human intervention could be applied to other situations, etc.)

-a brief conclusion

-a list of References in APA format that includes your article + 1 other source of

information; both sources should be cited in your assignment (using in-text citations)

Try to find your article in a news source, for example:

•Science Daily News: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

-click on tabs such as Plants & Animals or Earth & Climate

•CBC News: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/>

-the Technology & Science tab will probably be most useful

Important dates:

Monday, Sept. 26th, 2016: Last day to let me know by e-mail what *article* you have chosen

**Tuesday, October 4th, 2016: Assignment due by 3:30pm.**

**EVALUATION SCHEME:**

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|  | **Level 1 (50%)**  **5-5.5 marks** | **Level 2 (60%)**  **6-6.5 marks** | **Level 3 (70%)**  **7-7.5 marks** | **Level 4 (80-100%)**  **8-10 marks** |
| -includes all required information  -uses language that is clear and precise (excellent spelling, grammar, etc.) & in student’s own words  /10 | Expresses ideas and information with limited effectiveness | Expresses ideas with some effectiveness. | Expresses ideas and information with considerable effectiveness. | Expresses ideas and information with a high degree of effectiveness. |
| -uses in-text citations effectively  -uses proper APA format for Reference list & in-text citations  /5 | Reference list & in-text citations in APA format with many errors. | Reference list & in-text citations in APA format with some errors. | Reference list & in-text citations in APA format with few errors. | Reference list & in-text citations in APA format with no errors. |

**COMMUNICATION: /15 ( %)**

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|  | **Level 1 (50%)**  **2.5 marks** | **Level 2 (60%)**  **3 marks** | **Level 3 (70%)**  **3.5 marks** | **Level 4 (80-100%)**  **4-5 marks** |
| -clearly describes how biodiversity is affected by human intervention or climate change in the article  /5 | Makes connections between science, technology, society, and the environment with limited effectiveness | Makes connections between science, technology, society, and the environment with some effectiveness | Makes connections between science, technology, society, and the environment with considerable effectiveness | Makes connections between science, technology, society, and the environment with a high degree of effectiveness |
| -describes 2 viable suggestions for reversing negative impacts or gives 2 specific applications of positive intervention  /5 | Transfers knowledge to unfamiliar contexts with limited effectiveness.  Lists suggestions, but doesn’t give detail or make specific connections to the material in the article. | Transfers knowledge to unfamiliar contexts with some effectiveness. | Transfers knowledge to unfamiliar contexts with considerable effectiveness. | Transfers knowledge to unfamiliar contexts with a high degree of effectiveness. |

**APPLICATION: /10 ( %)**